

2026 UUMA Institute for the Learning Ministry Music Director Job Description

Background:

The 2026 UUMA Institute for the Learning Ministry will be held January 26-30, 2026 at the Hotel Albuquerque, Old Town in Albuquerque, NM. This will be the UUMA's sixth Institute and will continue to build upon the tradition of engaging and inspiring learning opportunities, worship, music and collegiality. We expect 400-500 UUMA ministers, seminarians and other UU religious professionals at the Institute attending both in person and online. Worship will be offered daily Monday through Friday. The [schedule](#) for the Institute is posted on our site. The music directors will be responsible for coordinating and/or leading music at each of the services.

A major focus of the Institute is to create an outstanding and varied musical experience for the soothing of souls and the inspiration of ministries. Our music director is given a budget of up to \$6,000 to hire musicians, order music and whatever is needed to ensure wonderful music. A high bar was set at our previous Institutes and we expect to meet or exceed that bar again.

Job Description:

The music director is responsible for coordinating and providing music at all (5) worship services. The music director will work with the Institute Worship Coordinator to manage a budget of up to \$7,250 which includes \$1,250 for a pianist and \$6,000 for musicians, music and any other expenses needed to provide a transformational worship experience for everyone in attendance. The music director will collaborate with the [preachers or worship leaders](#) for each service and hire and supervise other musical personnel. The music director will lead the Institute choir that will perform at some of the worship services and practice as needed.

Qualifications/expectations:

- Member of the Association of Unitarian Universalist Music Ministries (AUUMM) or willingness to join.
- Minimum five years experience as a musician in a UU setting, preferably in a mid-large size congregation
- A commitment to shared leadership, respect and collaboration.
- Proven ability to lead, create and coordinate inspiring and varied music and to work effectively/collaboratively with musicians, choir, ministers and staff.
- Strong organizational skills, able to meet deadlines and supervise/manage paid and volunteer musicians and choir members
- Participate in worship planning zoom calls beginning in late August or early Sept. 2025

Compensation and Support Provided:

- The music director will be paid \$2500 plus travel and lodging expenses.
- Administrative support will be provided by the UUMA Staff and the Institute Music & Worship Administrator (A virtual position, this staff member has musical background and will assist with permissions, powerpoints, communications, and other administrative tasks)

How to apply: Please send a cover letter and resume and example of your work by **July 15** to Janette Lallier at lallier@uuma.org. In your cover letter, please share examples of your ability to cast and implement a vision for music, work collaboratively, and how you might engage both onsite and offsite participants. Please also include two to three names we might contact as references.

Timeline: The selection team will receive applications on a rolling basis until the position is filled, with priority consideration given to those who apply by July 15.